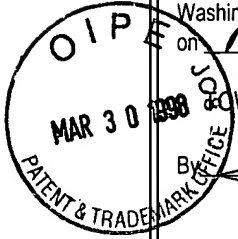


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on March 27, 1998



BY Judith Steele COUNSELLOR and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

#16
Reason
4/10/98

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 02307O-068910US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gray, Collins, Hwang, Godfrey, Kowbel,
and Rommens

Serial No.: 08/731,499

Filed: October 16, 1996

For: GENES FROM THE 20q
AMPLICON AND THEIR USES

Examiner: M. Davis

Art Unit: 1808

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 17, 1998, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. A petition to extend the period of response for one month is enclosed. A list of the pending claims is attached as Appendix I.

Remarks

In the Office Action dated July 8, 1997, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- Group I: Claims 1-23, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule;
- Group II: Claims 24-38, drawn to a method of screening for neoplastic cells using as a probe an a nucleic acid sequence;